

# **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING DISTRIBUTED ACCESS CONTROL TO SECURED ITEMS**

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A system and method for providing distributed access control are disclosed. A number of local servers are employed to operate largely on behalf of a central server responsible for centralized access control management. Such a distributed fashion ensures the dependability, reliability and scalability of the access control management undertaking by the central server. According to one embodiment, a distributed access control system that restricts access to secured items can include at least a central server having a server module that provides overall access control, and a plurality of local servers. Each of the local servers can include a local module that provides local access control. The access control, performed by the central server or the local servers, operates to permit or deny access requests to the secured items by requestors.